



The Home Department

Conducted by
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Unknown Martyrs

They have no place on storied page,
No rest in marble shrine;
They passed away with a perished
age—
They died and made no sign.
But work that shall find its wages
yet,
And deeds that their God did not
forget,
Done for their love divine—
These are the mourners, and these
shall be
The crowns of their immortality.

O, seek them not where sleep the
dead—
Ye shall not find their trace;
No graven stone is at their head,
No green grass hides their face;
O, sad and unseen is their silent
grave—
It may be the sands, or deep-sea wave,
Or lonely desert place;
For they needed no prayers and no
mourning bell;
They are tombed in the hearts that
loved them well.

They healed sick hearts though their
own were broken;
And dried sad eyes till their own
lost light;
Some day we shall know, by a cer-
tain token,
How they fought and fell in the
fight.
Salt tears of sorrow, unhealed,
Passionate cries unchronicled,
And silent strife for the right—
Angels shall count them, and earth
shall sigh
That she left her bravest to battle
and die.

—Edwin Arnold.

Home Chat

Even so long ago as in "the days when I was young," I used to wonder why no training was required to give a "girl" a position in the family as cook, for it did not seem possible to me that "cooking came natural" to one simply because she happened to be of the feminine gender. But, while in all other businesses I found an apprenticeship to be a necessity before one could get or keep a position, the rawest girl, with no experience whatever in the business, was taken at once into the family laboratory and into her keeping were entrusted the most important duties of the household—the preparation of food, upon the right putting together of which depends so much of the health and happiness of the family. "Good cooking" means the process by which food material is so prepared as to render it pleasing to the eye, acceptable to the palate and nourishing to the body. Ruskin says it means "Much tasting, no wasting; much English thoroughness, French art and Arabian hospitality; carefulness, inventiveness and watchfulness; the economy of our grandmothers and the science of modern chemistry." In view of the important part it plays in the happiness and prosperity of the whole human family, it cannot and should not, be regarded as the degrading occupation which is fit only for those who can do nothing else. It is, indeed, a science, which, while not difficult to comprehend, yet requires interest, attention and much judgment, and it has claimed the devotion of many wise and learned men and women. In our day, it is beginning to be looked upon as one of the "learned professions," and commands the attention of some of our bright-

est women and most practical chemists. It is beginning to be understood that the cook must be paid for the "know how" as well as for the mere mechanical labor, and a really efficient woman cook—one up-to-date in her business—is beginning to look upon her work as a "business," and to demand the treatment accorded to other "business" people. The really sensible employe is learning to respect herself, and to realize that her business is "so much proficient work for so much money," regardless of "social advantages" allowed or withheld. In any other business we do not ask, or expect that our employers shall take us into the family life; that we shall be regarded as a "friend," or a guest, and given the entree into the sanctuary of the home. Why should we be? We should, however, so respect ourselves that we shall merit their respect and trust, and by doing the duties, for the performance of which we are paid, in the most acceptable manner to them, command a continuance of their respect and trust. In the inevitable intimacy that must exist between the woman householder and her employe, there should be no more antagonism, no more thought of "equality," socially, than there is between the man employer and his helper. A really refined, self-respecting woman never stops to consider whether she is a "servant" or a social equal. But she does demand, by her self-respecting manner of doing her work, and her respectful bearing toward her associates, that the treatment she is entitled to be accorded to her. Very few refined women have to say, in words, that she is "a lady." If she really is a lady, in the best sense of the word, her title to the distinction will be recognized instinctively by one who is a lady, herself; but not all employers are, themselves, really ladies, and one must "learn to be patient with fools," indoors as well as out. Not everything in this life will bear to be taken seriously; but, no matter where we find ourselves, we can still prove our claim to the title by our actions and refined bearing. In whatever position we find ourselves, in our struggle for bread, we should try to do conscientiously, the work that is intrusted to our hands; to do it the very best we know how, and to seek continually to "know how" a little better than we did when we began. Make of the work, whether of the moment or for all time, as great a success as it is possible for us to do, and seek always to do a little better than is expected of us. In short, do our work so well as to make ourselves necessary to the success of our employers, and thus hold their respect and esteem, as well as the work intrusted to our hands.

Contributed Recipes

Marsh-mallow Cake.—To make this dainty cake, any good white cake recipe may be used. Bake the batter in layer-pans; treat as you would for layer-cake. For filling, dissolve half a pound of gum arabic in one pint of water, strain and mix in half a pound of powdered sugar; set over a moderate fire, or use a double boiler, stirring until a thick syrup is made; take from the fire and add carefully the beaten whites of four eggs, stirring the mixture until it thins and will not adhere to the fingers; flavor and set aside to cool; spread between the layers of cake when firm.

For Sweet Pickles.—For one gallon

of sweet pickles, one quart of vinegar and one quart of sugar; boil the fruit in this until tender, then dip out (if peaches) and spike each peach with two or three whole cloves and pack in a jar. Boil the syrup until thick and pour over the fruit while hot, cover closely and set in cool place.

For Stout Ladies

Answering Mrs. H.:—A light waist and a dark skirt is not a becoming combination for a large woman. The waist line is made so pronounced by the sharp change of color as to give one the appearance of being larger and stouter than she really is. Either an all-dark, or an all-light costume should be chosen. There are so many cool, thin fabrics for hot weather, in all grades and shades of color, and especially in blacks and whites, that one should have no difficulty in obtaining a summery effect, both in appearance and comfort of wear. The figured lawns, mulls, organdies, and the new fabrics for hot weather wear, come in figures or stripes on dark backgrounds; but these should not, for economy's sake, be of the cheap, flimsy quality which does not launder well, or keep its shape in wear, though they need not necessarily be expensive. The bust measure should be about ten inches larger than that of the waist, but when it is not, the deficiency in bust measure can be in a measure overcome by a proper pattern, giving a broader effect to the shoulders. A stout woman can wear wash dresses made with plain-gored, though not too tight fitting skirts, neatly fitted about the hips, with fichu-like draperies about the shoulders to give a more proportionate effect. The waist may have many seams, with pointed effect. The "frog-back" appearance so often given to short, stout women by some makes of corsets may be somewhat overcome by draperies about the shoulders. Almost all women, large or small, look well in all-white dresses, but the stout woman is made to appear smaller by dark, or black, solid-color goods. If the whole garment is light, a black belt makes the waist look smaller, and to make the belt-line less pronounced, there should be a bit of the same color, lace or ribbon, at the throat and wrists of the costume. A tiny bit of some bright, becoming color about the neck or throat, is to be recommended, and the fact that a woman is "getting along in years," with gray hair and deepening wrinkles should not be made an excuse for frowsy, careless dressing, "lopping" posture, careless toilet or dull, lack-luster eyes. The older one gets, the more need that she should care for her appearance and preserve what little claim to attractiveness she may still possess. We should not allow ourselves to degenerate, even though we are piling up the years behind us; and we need not, if we do not "slouch," or "lop."

The Guest-Chamber

"About these days," we find much advice given the hostess for properly preparing the guest-chamber for the expected guest, as this is the season when people who do not like to work in hot weather inflict themselves upon those who have to do so, whether they like it or not. Among the much advice given, we find that a hostess is told that her neglect to supply the guest chamber with ink, pen and stationery is often the direct cause of anxiety to the guest's family

left behind, because the guest has to wait until she can supply herself with such articles before she can acquaint them with her safe arrival.

Somehow, I cannot see that it is the duty of the hostess to do this, or that she is to blame if her guest is so thoughtless as to neglect so important a matter, herself. It is better to warn the contemplated visitor to carry a suitable stock of such things with her, as the business of writing letters is, in my estimation, a strictly personal affair, and notifying one's family of our safe arrival at our destination is a strictly personal duty. Many hostesses are not, themselves, letter writers, and such a provision may not seem at all necessary. Even the provision of toilet articles, such as combs, brushes, etc., is not now considered as binding on the hostess, as most visiting people carry such things with them as a matter of course. It seems to me that the guest should seek rather to lessen the work her visit must inevitably increase than that the hostess should be burdened with trivial matters which the guest, herself, should attend to as being of a strictly personal nature. No matter how thoughtful or self-helpful a guest may be, it is inevitable that the admission into the home of even our dearest friend must greatly increase our care and responsibility, and the guest should seek, in every way to render the added burden as light as possible by attending to all such personal matters, herself.

Training the Children

Many visiting mothers will have their pride in their children a little humbled, I am afraid, by the way in which the said children deport themselves, especially at the table. Recently, it has been my privilege to observe the conduct of some very handsomely dressed children at the table in some of our best hotels, and to also observe how mortified some of the mothers were over their seeming entire lack of good manners. It is inevitable that these mothers will be blamed for the conduct of these little folks, although it is possible that they should not be, as some children take such occasion on which to "show off" the worst that is in them. Weakly, or overworked mothers cannot always train the children aright.

The children should be taught at home to handle the knife, fork and spoon, and to chew with their mouths closed. It is not a pleasant spectacle to see children chew open-mouthed, with grimaces and noise and smacking of the lips, like so many swine. Many of these children, when anything amuses them, guffaw out with widely extended jaws, revealing the half-masticated food in all its repulsiveness, to say nothing of their untidy clawing over their dishes, dropping bits of food about on the table cloth and on their clothes, spilling liquids, reaching after dishes beyond the length of their arms, extending their tongues to catch the food as it approaches the mouth, and in many ways rendering the dinner a failure to those so unfortunate as to have to bear them company. Such children should be well drilled at home, or consigned to a children's table, when taken with their parents.

Cleaning and Cooking Fresh Fish

"A Reader," who is having an outing where fish "bite" freely, sends the following: Some people attempt to skin small catfish without cleaning them properly. To dress catfish that will weigh under four pounds, chop the head off with a sharp hatchet just

BETTER THAN SPANKING

Spanking does not cure children of bad writing. If it did there would be few children that would do it. There is a constitutional cause for this. Mrs. M. Summers, Box 118, Notre Dame, Ind., will send her home treatment to any mother. She asks no money. Write her today if your children trouble you in this way. Don't blame the child. The chances are it can't help it.